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**ATTENTION: BOX AFTER FINAL  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1731**

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 09877.0189-00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Giacomo Stefano Roba *et al.*

Application No.: 09/986,622

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: METHOD AND INDUCTION  
FURNACE FOR DRAWING  
LARGE DIAMETER PREFORMS  
TO OPTICAL FIBRES

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: John M. Hoffman

Confirmation No.: 5933

MAIL STOP AF  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 20, 2006, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the proposed Amendment After Final placing the claims in better condition for appeal or allowance and reconsider the application in view of the amendments and appended remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper.